

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 29, Number 13

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, February 17, 1966

Senior Citizens Housing Coop Answers Critical APB Report on Center Site

The Advisory Planning Board submitted a generally critical report to Council at its Feb. 14 meeting on the proposed location of a senior citizens center on what is now city parkland. City Council accepted the report and placed it on the agenda for discussion Monday, Feb. 21. The site in question lies between the North parking lot, Braden Field, the Fire Dept. and the Parkway apartments. This land is also being considered for a new post office, which would require less area.

In its report the APB noted that the commercial center is presently surrounded by residential development and this proposed senior citizens center would further limit future commercial expansion should the need arise.

The report opposes private use of public parkland and states that other sites are available that would not infringe on parkland. The financial return (2% per year of appraised value of land) would be insufficient to acquire an equal amount of parkland elsewhere, the report asserts.

"Selling of parkland," says the APB, "would appear to be incompatible with the wishes of the electorate after the passing of the park land acquisition referendum."

The Senior Citizens Housing Cooperative has made available to the News Review its response to the APB's report. The land would not be used for private use, states SCHC, but rather for a facility for public use that would be cooperatively owned, and financed and regulated by the Federal government. Its recreational facilities (at a nominal fee), the club rooms and dining hall would be open to all senior citizens and their guests.

At this location there is enough land for both a post office and a senior citizens center, claims SCHC, and needs of the city's expanding senior citizenry appears to be greater than the need for more commercial land at the center. Other land, outside the center already zoned for commercial use, they point out, should be ample for future needs of the city. "We do not propose that Greenbelt sell the land, but rather lease it," they say, thus making additional use of the land. "This does not seem inconsistent with decisions of previous Councils to use City land for the north parking lot, for the Fire House, and for the Youth Center." The 2 per cent return would be additional income for the city, and at the same time the new Center would be adding new recreational facilities at no cost to the taxpayer.

The remaining possible site, says SCHC, the GHI land south of Hamilton Pl., is considered to be inferior to that in the centrally located shopping center. A site at the edge of the city uphill from the shopping center, would make it difficult for elderly residents to walk home with groceries or heavy purchases. This land also lies below existing sewers, thus requiring an expensive pumping station or a wait for a major new sewer system to be built. In addition this site would require expensive and time-consuming rezoning, which does not appear to be necessary for the center site.

Toastmasters to Meet

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club will hold its next meeting at the Hospitality Room of the Consumer Discount Store on Feb. 22 at 8 p.m. Transportation from Spring Hill Lake will be arranged by Max Heppner, who will be at the door of the Community House at 7:30 p.m. to transport anyone who is interested in attending. Guests are welcome.

NEW SCHEDULE FOR ART GUILD

On the basis of response to the Art Guild's effort to determine what type of classes should be scheduled next, slight changes have been made in programming, with the following tentative schedule of events: Beginning Wednesday, March 2, Jack Dillinger will conduct a 10-week course in drawing and oil painting using a model. Limited time sketches and longer paintings, involving a professional model each week (in both leotards and costume) will be stressed, as opposed to the more general painting classes previously offered. Since a minimum number of applicants can be accepted, those who are interested in this more specific approach should get in touch with Rose Collins at 474-2948 or Sylvia Lewis at 474-8563.

The Young People's classes, because of the wide range of age and experience among present applicants, will be for young people aged 12 or above, with classes to start Saturday, March 5, at 11 a.m. Parents who wish to enroll their children should contact, Jo Sheibel, at 474-5041 soon. (The age limitation may be waived in case of previous painting experience, but since some work will involve oils, younger prospects, or those less experienced, should wait for the class on a less advanced level when instructors and applicants make a second class practical.)

Guild members and friends are reminded that the monthly critique under Jim Forbes will be held at the Youth Center next Wednesday, at 7:30 p.m. One painting should be brought for analysis, although those who wish to participate as spectators are cordially invited.

Ecumenical Service On Ash Wednesday

Two Greenbelt Churches are among eleven churches in Prince Georges County who are members of the six denominations currently engaged in a consultation on church union will hold an ecumenical service of communion on Ash Wednesday evening, Feb. 23 at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, Lanham, at 8 p.m. People from all churches are invited to this Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Service.

Gladys Spellman at JCC

County Commissioner Gladys N. Spellman will speak on "Education in the Community" at a meeting of the Women's Group of the Jewish Community Center on Wednesday, Feb. 23 at 8:30 p.m.

WHAT GOES ON

Monday, Feb. 21, 10 a.m. Golden Triangle Hearing, Circuit Court, Upper Marlboro
8 p.m. City Council Meeting, Municipal Bldg.
Tuesday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m. Toastmasters meeting, Co-op Hospitality Room.
Thursday, Feb. 24, 7:45 p.m. GHI Board Meets

Annual Meeting of Twin Pines Members

Members of Twin Pines Savings and Loan Association will hold their Annual Meeting at the Greenbelt Youth Center Tuesday Feb. 22 at 8 p.m. The officers will report on the affairs of the Association, and the members will exchange ideas and consider plans for the coming year.

The following persons have been nominated for these offices for the coming year: Board of Directors - Robert A. Hill, Charles T. McDonald, David L. Kelley, Charles B. Parker, Max Zobin, W. Victor Smith, Toni Durantine. Supervisory Committee - Charles H. "Scoop" Wainscott, George C. Reeves, David Young, Arlene Calof, John Maffay, Jeremy Anderson. Leonie Penney has been nominated for the Nominating Committee.

The general public is welcome to attend the meeting. Refreshments will be served.

Golden Triangle Hearing

The Circuit Court hearing on the Golden Triangle zoning appeal filed by the city will take place on Monday, Feb. 21, at 10 a.m. at the Circuit Court in Upper Marlboro.

The City is seeking a reversal of last July's ruling of the County Commissioners (sitting as the District Council) zoning the 57-acre Golden Triangle for a regional shopping center (General Commercial C-2). Both the city's own master plan and the MNCPPC Area 13 Plan oppose such zoning for this area bounded by Greenbelt Rd., Kenilworth Ave., and the Capital Beltway. The public is invited.



School Board Superintendent William S. Schmidt speaks at public meeting on senior high school site, Tuesday, February 8. Sitting behind Schmidt (left to right): Del. Royal Hart (Chairman of the county's delegation to the Maryland assembly), City Councilman Dick Pilski and Del. Robert Dentz.

(Photograph by N. J. Pergola)

GHI ENDORSES SCHWAN'S OFFERS MADE AT SCHOOL SITE MEETING

by Sid Kastner

The initiative shown by Greenbelt Homes, Inc. president Charles Schwan at the mass meeting on the senior high school site question, February 8, was warmly applauded by his fellow directors at Thursday's board meeting. Schwan offered to the County Board of Education, on behalf of GHI, help in acquiring land for the elementary school and also in releasing the school board from a claimed contractual obligation to the owner of parcel 2. The GHI members unanimously endorsed their chairman's stand and proceeded to back it up with appropriate action.

The Board authorized Schwan to inform Superintendent of Schools William S. Schmidt in writing that, subject to the approval of the GHI membership, the corporation will offer the school board the choice of any GHI-owned land as the site for an elementary school at a cost not to exceed that for which GHI can obtain its release from the mortgage.

As an alternative, Schwan was authorized to advise Schmidt that if the school board feels that it is legally bound to purchase parcel 2 for a 3-school complex, GHI is to cooperate in the possible purchase of that part of parcel 2 which would have been used for a senior high school site.

Director Nat Shinderman noted that the school board was reluctant to reconsider the school site on the grounds that it was committed to buy the site. Shinderman suggested that its attorney review the legal status of the contract between the school board and the owner to determine how binding the contract is.

Another question that arose concerned the value of the parcel 2 site, which is being sold at an average price of \$8,000 an acre. The assessed valuation of the land is below this price, and a question

arose as to what other conditions were included in the contract between the school board and the owner.

Still another question arose over the site development costs that had been presented at the February 8 meeting by Elliot Robertson, the school engineer. Members of the board and visitors contested the statement made by Robertson that it costs more to build in height than it does width. The engineer had said this when asked why the school design couldn't be changed so as to cut down the cost of dirt removal.

The board agreed that the cost estimates submitted by the school board should be given analysis by an independent source. It was agreed to pursue this matter with the Mayor and the joint city-GHI committee.

The Board also passed a motion commending the city council for its action on February 8 in support of the position of the majority of Greenbelters with respect to the preference of the Beltway-Lake site over the parcel 2 site for a senior high school.

Other Action

On other matters, Shinderman reported for the ad hoc committee on building larger homes that the four families concerned seem to be in general agreement on their requirements. In subsequent talks with the architect, all parties were satisfied and approval was given for drawing up plans. It will take about a month before cost estimates can be given. Director John O'Reilly commended the architect for rendering great help; the architect will also draw up specifications to go out on bid.

An initial meeting has been held on the matter of court parking, according to director Jim Smith who reported for the ad hoc committee. A tentative decision has been made not to assign spaces and to request the city to enforce all other applicable ordinances in the courts. In the meantime, the manager was asked to study the legal aspects. The jurisdictional problem became acute during the recent blizzard, according to George Adams, who complained that neither the city nor GHI would take responsibility for clearing snow from the courts. Shinderman and Seymour Kaplan again showed concern that GHI might lose the court area by default.

The annual membership meeting has been set for Wednesday May 18th.

Marathon, Two Mile Races

A marathon race and a two-mile race will be held Sunday, Feb. 20 at 1:15 p.m. starting at the Beltsville shopping center. A number of Greenbelt residents will be competing in the two-mile event and at least one former Greenbelt man will be in the marathon. Several marathoners of international rank will be running to break the Washington D.C. record of 2 hours, 32 minutes and 40 seconds for the 26 mile plus course. Information from L. Noel 474-9362.

The Steering Committee of the CITIZENS FOR A PLANNED GREENBELT

wishes to thank all the dedicated volunteers who carried petitions door-to-door urging the Board of Education to reverse its selection of a senior high school site in favor of the Beltway-Lake location. The results of the petition drive have made it clear that the residents of Greenbelt are deeply concerned about the future of their city.

(Paid Ad)

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

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Editor: Mary Louise Williamson, 474-4906
Associate Editor: Mary Smith, 474-6314

STAFF
Virginia Beauchamp, Sallie Berry, Rita Fisher, Vic Fisher, Judy Goldstein, Katherine Gough, Bess Halperin, G. K. Hodenfield, Bernice Kastner, Sid Kastner, Martha Kaufman, Charles T. McDonald, Virginia Moryadas, Al Skolnik, Elaine Skolnik, Audrey Stern, David P. Stern, Dorothy Sucher, Business Manager: Adele Mundt, Circulation Manager: Mrs. Carolyn Bailey, 474-7795 and Mrs. Rena Friedman 474-5218 (Springhill Lake).

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MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$3.00 per year; (\$4.00 out of Greenbelt). Advertising and news articles may be mailed (Box 68, Greenbelt); deposited in our box at the Twin Pines office; or delivered to the editorial office in the basement of 15 Parkway (GR 4-4131), open after 8:30 p.m. Tuesday. Deadline is 9:30 p.m. Tuesday.

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City Notes

First the snow, and then the thaw, water seeping into cracks in the pavements, then freezing—and suddenly pot holes in many streets all over the city. That is the aftermath of the blizzard of '66. Worst hit was Crescent Road between the Baptist Church and the entrance to Boxwood Village. There temporary patching jobs put in on Thursday and Friday last week gave way under the weekend rains. As a result city crews have been digging up that section of road and putting in a concrete base. Yesterday the base received an asphalt topping.

According to Public Works Director Buddy Attick, no pot holes have appeared, however, in streets that have received the smoothseal resurfacing as part of the city's continuing road improvement program. These have held up very well against the rampages of weather. But the lake end of Crescent had not yet been resurfaced in that manner; it was scheduled for the smoothseal program this coming summer.

Next to Crescent Rd., the other streets worst hit are Empire Place and Fayette Place in the Lakewood development. Temporary patching will be put into those streets immediately, but they will not receive permanent patches until the weather is drier and there is no longer danger of a freeze.

Cleaning up operations on the snow accumulation around town was occupying the Public Works Dept. exclusively last week. City workers put in overtime hours on Saturday to continue with the road scraping job around town. They were working especially in those places where streets were scarcely more than one lane in width between snow banks. On Monday they concentrated on trying to clear out the center parking lots. They were also attempting to clear sidewalks around each of the schools, but since so many of these walks had been heavily trampled, the job was difficult. Snow removal attempts in court parking areas were considered to aggravate rather than improve conditions and were abandoned.

Heavy snow accumulations or heavy winds or both caused the collapse of the eastern end of the Walker farmhouse, the old dilapidated structure on Greenbelt Rd.

Poetry Hour News

The Friday group elected the following officers for the second half of the year: First officer, Mary Louise Burkart; Second Officer, Thomas McAndrew; Third Officer, Wendy Sydow; Fourth Officer, Michael Jones. A film featuring Longfellow's poem, "Paul Revere's Ride" will be shown at the next meeting on Feb. 18.

A new poetry group is now forming for boys and girls in the third and fourth grades. It meets on alternate Mondays with the next meeting scheduled for Feb. 21, at 4 p.m. in the Center School Gym. The program will include poems by Henry W. Longfellow and a film.

Sickles Committee Meeting

The Greenbelt Sickles for Governor Committee held an organizational meeting last Tuesday. Gerald Gough was named chairman and Louis Pohoryles, 1st vice chairman. The group adopted by-laws and then heard Dr. Elbert Byrd advise them on campaign tactics and organization.

Beware of the Mudholes

Two boys both aged 7, were caught fast in mud at a construction site at the very back of Boxwood last Monday, Feb. 14. The Fire Dept. received the call shortly after dark. As firemen arrived with flood lights only the head and shoulders of each boy were visible above a sea of mud. With the aid of ropes and ladders the boys were reached, but the men found it impossible either to pull or dig the boys out because of the suction force of the mud.

Under the direction of Deputy Chief John Crisman a fire hose was stuck down into the mud beside the boy, and the water slowly turned on until the high pressure literally forced the boys up and out of the mud. Approximately 20 minutes were required to free the boys who were then taken to the hospital for examination and soon released (the mother of one boy reports both are fine now).

Firemen later learned there had been a third boy who had managed to get out and summon help. Otherwise, stated Crisman, we might have had a real tragedy.

The Fire Dept. requests that parents warn their children of this extreme danger and that they know where their children are.

This deep mud generally occurs following heavy snow and rain and temperatures sufficiently cold to freeze the ground for a period of time. The ground becomes so saturated with moisture that, as it thaws, the mud may become many inches or even feet deep. In addition, the soft warming ground expands and shifts. This is the condition that caused the tragic cave-in at the Beltway Plaza construction site several years ago.

The greatest danger of deep mud within Greenbelt occurs around construction sites where basements or ditches recently dug have then filled with water from rain or melting snow.

The Fire Dept. cautions citizens that Greenbelt will be faced with this muddy situation for some

Our Neighbors

by Elaine Skolnik — 474-6060

Best wishes for a happy birthday to Mrs. Annie McGregor, 11-A Hillside, who was 85 years young recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Beebe, 47-E Ridge, proudly announce the birth of their first grandchild, Thomas Earl II, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Vanvolkenburn, arrived on December 27 in Chula Vista, California, weighing a sturdy nine pounds.

Happy-happy birthday to Chris Pilski, 6 Orange, who was three years old.

It's a boy for Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Jewell, 16-D Crescent. Michael Albert was born January 23 weighing 7 lbs. 9 oz. He joins a brother, David, who celebrated his second birthday January 17. The boys' maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Albert Johnson, 3-H Crescent where great-grandmother, Mrs. Selby, also resides.

Donald K. Pursell of 6203 Springhill, has enlisted in the United States Army Reserve as a member of the 2290th U.S. Army Hospital, an Army Reserve unit training at the Maus-Warfield USAR Center in Rockville.

Pursell will train in the medical unit with an assignment in the field of medical records administration.

Milton T. Harris, III, whose parents live at 71-J Ridge, participated with other members of the 3d Infantry Division in Exercise MARNE MAULER, an 11-day field training exercise in Germany which ended Feb. 7.

The exercise is being held to provide intensive training in tactical procedures against an aggressor force, and to further train the division to support itself logistically.

American, German and French air and ground forces are also taking part in the exercise as friendly and aggressor forces.

MARNE MAULER is part of the year-round program the 3d Infantry Division conducts to maintain its combat proficiency.

The Police Blotter

The theft of \$275 from a cash drawer at the Phillips 66 service station on Greenbelt Rd. near the Beltway Plaza was reported Feb. 11. The drawer was pried open between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. while all the attendants were serving customers outside the station. Police are looking for two customers reportedly seen inside the station during the time the money was taken.

years as the city's vacant lands are cleared for building.

LITTLE LEAGUERS

by Jerry W. Shafer

The new Little League Officers for 1966 are: President, Cleo E. "Dale" Parrish; Vice President, Jerry W. Shafer; Secretary, Norman A. McCarthy; Treasurer, Raymond B. Leber; Commissioner, Eugene R. "Gene" Kellaher; Commissioner, James S. "Jim" Wells.

The Greenbelt Little League is planning a larger program for the coming season; coaches and helpers are desperately needed. Interested residents of Greenbelt please write to the Little League, Box 174, Greenbelt, or call Dale Parrish, 474-7699, or contact one of the Little League managers.

Every boy between the ages of 8 to 12, as of July 31, must submit a contract to the League. Contracts can be picked up at the Youth Center on Saturday, Feb. 19 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Fill out this contract and return to the Youth Center on Feb. 26 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. The contract must be signed by one parent and be accompanied by a birth certificate.

Woman's Club News

The Fine Arts Dept. will meet in the Co-op Hospitality Room at 8:15 p.m., Thurs., Feb. 17. Mrs. James McCarl will demonstrate the art of creating Flemish flowers.

9:45 a.m.	Sunday School	6:00 p.m.	Training Union
11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	7:00 p.m.	Evangelistic Hour
	8:00 p.m. Wednesday		Prayer Meeting

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To the Editor:

We wish to thank our neighbors, friends, Father Smith, the Sisters and Ladies of Charity of St. Hugh's for their assistance and kind expressions of sympathy during our recent bereavement.

The family of Norman Farmer



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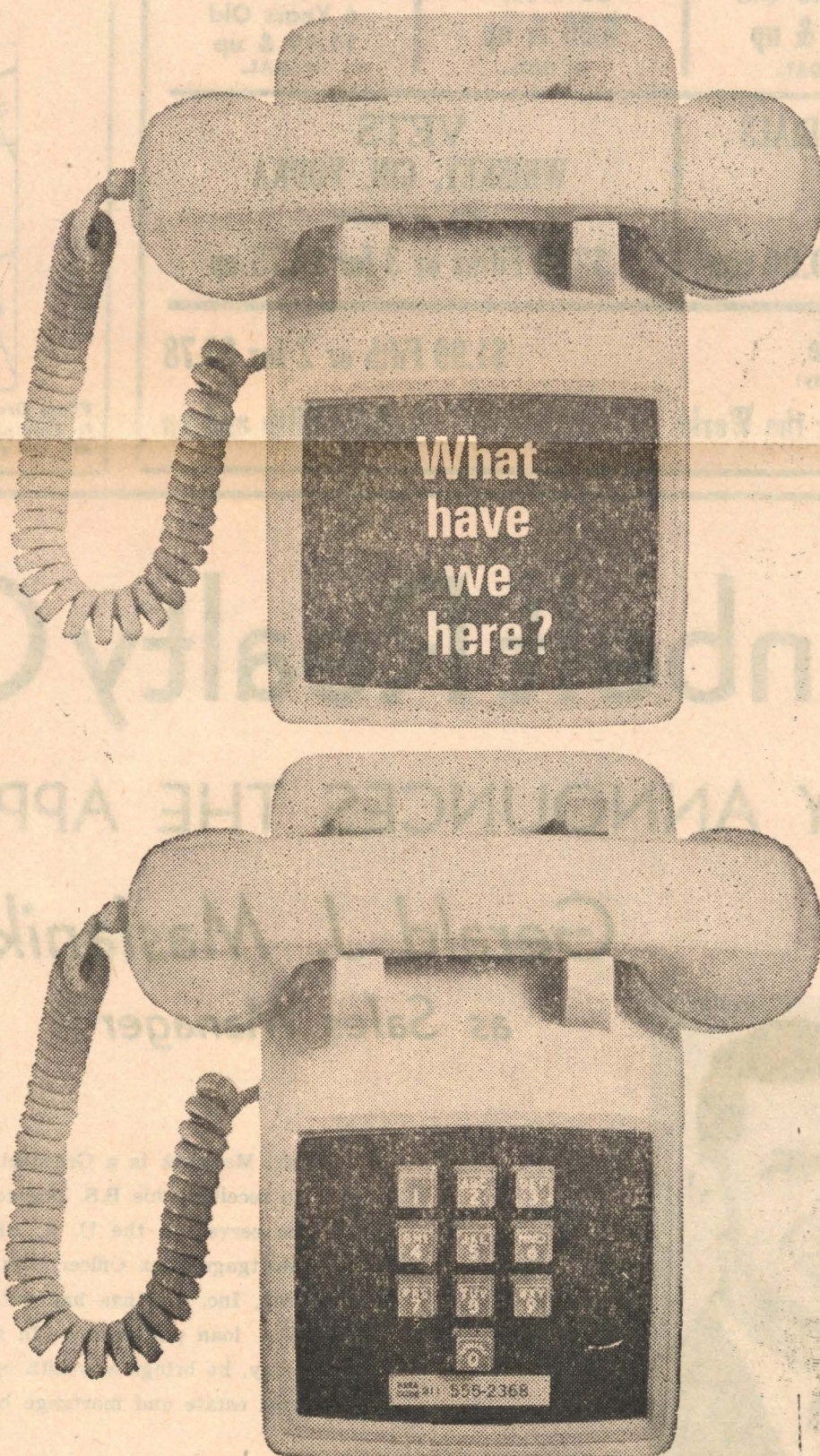
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Recreation Review
by Richard Stevenson
Director of Recreation
Softball Meeting

The first organizational meeting of the Slow-Pitch Softball League will be held Monday, Feb. 28, in the Youth Center at 7:30 p.m. A discussion of rules, officials, tournaments and fees will be held.

Roller Skating
New boot style roller skates have been purchased by the Recreation

Department and will be introduced into the program starting Monday, Feb. 21. A twenty-five cent rental fee will be charged to the user. The ten cent admission fee will still be charged.

"B" League Basketball
Coming down the home stretch, the Bullets still lead the league by one game over the Knicks. In Monday's games, the Knicks downed the Bullets 94-76 and the Lakers defeated the Celtics 69-58.

Bullets
Knicks
Lakers
Celtics

Arts and Crafts
Arts and Crafts classes are held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings at the Youth Center. A small fee is charged for materials.

Junior Teen Club
The Department of Recreation is

proud to announce that Mr. Charles VanHorn has recently joined the staff as Junior Teen Club Director. Mr. VanHorn is a sixth grade teacher at Center Elementary School.

CANCELLATION
The demonstration of Ovation Cosmetics, previously scheduled for Feb. 24 at 8 p.m., has been cancelled.

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Greenbelt Realty Company

PROUDLY ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF

Gerald J. Maslanik

as Sales Manager

Mr. Maslanik is a Greenbelt resident of long standing. Prior to receiving his B.S. Degree from the University of Maryland, he served in the U. S. Air Force. Mr. Maslanik served as Mortgage Loan Officer with Bogley, Harting, Mahoney, & Lebling, Inc. and has had extensive experience with F.H.A. and V.A. loan placements. In returning to Greenbelt Realty Company, he brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in both real estate and mortgage banking.

"I want to offer the residents of Greenbelt my assistance in solving their mortgage problems as well as their housing problems. Further, I extend an invitation to anyone who wishes to make an appointment to discuss their present mortgage, possible future mortgage, how best to purchase a home or sell their present home and so forth. There is no obligation or fee. Being a professional real estate office, I feel we should offer this service. As a Greenbelt resident, I want to offer this service."

REALTORS

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